

Remarks

Claims 1-8, 17 and 20-28 are currently pending in the application.

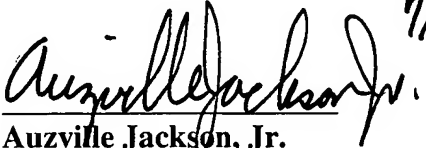
Claims 17, 20-21 and 26-28 stand rejected on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting over the claims of U.S. Patent Nos. 6,555,589 and 6,555,590. It is respectfully submitted that the enclosed Terminal Disclaimers meet and overcome these grounds for rejection.

The Examiner has indicated the allowability of claims 17, 20-21 and 26-28 over the prior art of record if the foregoing Terminal Disclaimers were submitted. It is respectfully submitted that the foregoing Terminal Disclaimers remove any further obstacles to allowance of these claims.

The Examiner has further graciously pointed out that the application contains process claims that have been previously restricted and that since these process claims are not of the same scope of the allowed product claims they will not be rejoined with the allowable product claims. By the foregoing amendments, all of the process claims have been rendered commensurate in scope with one or more of the allowable product claims. Accordingly, rejoinder of these process claims is respectfully solicited.

In view of the foregoing amendments to the claims, the Terminal Disclaimers filed herewith and the remarks presented hereinabove, it is respectfully submitted that all of the claims currently in the application stand in condition for allowance and the same is most earnestly solicited at an early date.

Respectfully submitted,

 7/21/06
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